

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 5 DEC 50

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Soviet Activity along the Iranian Border

NO. OF PAGES 2

X1A

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.**

X1A

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U.S.C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE
25X1X

Entire Length of the Araxes River

1. Railroad stations were being enlarged and extended at the following places: *

Khalafllu, opposite Iranian Khamarlu (39-56N, 44-33E)**

Alishar (39–32N, 44–56E)
Kargalug (39–16N, 45–10E)
Nahrami (Negram, 39–03N, 45–27E)
Dzhuka (not located)
Dzhulfa (38–56N, 45–37E)
Yaiji (38–56N, 45–45E)
Dasti (Dosti, 38–53N, 45–55E)
Aza (38–55N, 45–50E)
Ordubad (38–53N, 46–02E)
Karchivan (38–50N, 46–08E)
Staraz (Astazur, 38–53N, 46–25E)

2. There are two possible reasons for this expansion.

- a. The nature of the terrain along the Araxes precludes the existence of a second railroad line in the region. Therefore, in order to obtain optimum use of the existing railroad, the Soviets are enlarging the stations along the line more than would be required under normal conditions of operation.
- b. At the places where the tributary valleys of the Araxes meet the river and at the points where the railroad stations are being enlarged it is possible that increases of activity in these valleys is taxing the present facilities of the railroad stations, thus making necessary the present program of expansion and enlargement.***

Astara As Far As Garmi (39-01N, 48-03E)

Military Activity

3. Movements of trucks, jeeps, soldiers, and civilians increased in comparison to previous weeks. Searchlight activity was stepped up. Reconnaissance planes were active. Planes bearing the numbers 12 and 13 and marked with a red and white star were active in the vicinity of Garhi from Diman (38-51N, 48-03E) as far as the Mogan Steppes.

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~/CONTROL-US OFFICIALS ONLY

[illegible]

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2000/04/18
Next Review Date: 2003

Document No. 008
 No Change in Class. ☐
☒ Declassified
 Class. Changed To: TS S C
 Auth: HB 70-2
 2-00457 R008 300200000-6
 Date: 20 June 78 By: 018

4. The presence of large garrisons in the area has resulted in strict controls being imposed by the Soviets. No one is permitted near the troops or their barracks. New troop concentrations have been reported at the mountain posts in the vicinity of Zavand (not located) and Diman as far as the Moghan Steppes.
5. During the period of time covered by this report, large quantities of fodder have been observed being delivered to a place behind Shatirlu (39-05N, 48-21E) south of Adineh. This may indicate the presence of a cavalry unit in that area. During the previous month, similar activity took place at the village of Ache (possibly Achtche, 39-10N, 48-25E). A subsequent report disclosed the presence of a cavalry unit in the forests of the Ache area.

Stockpiling

6. Extraordinary truck activity was reported bringing provisions, especially flour, to the posts in the vicinity of Zavand. Provisions are being stockpiled at these posts. Source was inclined to believe that this may be an indication of preparations for possible activity during the coming winter.

Rail Traffic

7. Coal, iron bars, soldiers (as many as 27 carloads of soldiers were observed on one occasion), and cases of ammunition have made up loads being transported along the Araxes. The trains were pulled by two locomotives.

Road Traffic

8. Prior to this period, five to seven trucks had been observed daily along the roads. This figure has now increased to the point where as many as 50 trucks are observed daily. One truck was observed entering Khalafu, where sacks of flour are being accumulated.

Dzhulfa (38-56N, 45-37E)

Road Traffic

9. Between Dzhulfa, Nakhichevan, and Yerevan trucks were carrying loads of ammunition. As many as 72 trucks loaded with cases of ammunition were observed in a single day.

Lutfabad (37-33N, 59-17E)

10. There was an increase in activity between Ashkhabad and Kaakha (37-22N, 59-38E).

Rail Traffic for 18 and 19 August

11. Westbound, Kaakha to Ashkhabad, there were 13 trains among which were observed 43 passenger cars, 64 tank cars, 172 freight cars of which 38 were gondola cars, and the remainder closed cars.
12. Eastbound, Ashkhabad to Kaakha, there were 12 trains, among which were observed 36 passenger cars, 82 tank cars, 246 freight cars of which 10 cars were loaded with armored cars and in each armored car sat 2 soldiers, 20 cars carrying 75 mm cannon, 10 carloads of jeeps, 20 cars carrying jeeps, 20 cars were empty, and the remainder were sealed. This was the first time such a large number of trains had been observed.
13. On the night of 18-19 August, eight trains were observed going from Ashkhabad to Kaakha.

25X1C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~/CONTROL-US OFFICIALS ONLY